Gujarat Industrial Park Ordinance, 2003

2354. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of India have not agreed to incorporate the appropriate labour in the Gujarat Industrial Park Ordinance, 2003 for which the request had been made by the Gujarat Government to give further boost to the apparel industry in that State; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the trend of outsourcing in respect of apparel, electronic and jewellery industries is going to benefit the labour force and also industrial establishments in India particularly in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The State Government of Gujarat had sent draft proposal of Gujarat Industrial Park Ordinance, 2003 in the year 2003 for obtaining the approval of the Central Government. The State Government of Gujarat has been advised to define "Industrial Park" in a more specific manner so as to cover labour intensive industries like apparel, gems & jewellery and the electronics manufacturing industries only and submit a revised a proposal after due consultation with the Central Trade Unions. Revised proposal in this regard has not yet been received.

Employment for agricultural labourers

2355. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agricultural labourers constitute over 60 per cent of the total work force in the country;

(b) the percentage of agricultural labourers, who do not get sustainable level of employment throughout the year; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide them employment through diversification, if necessary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) According to

2001 Census, Agricultural Labourers constitute 26.5% of total workers. These include main workers (A person who had worked for 6 months or more during the reference period) and marginal workers (A person who had worked for less than 6 months during the reference period).

(c) The Government is implementing various employment oriented schemes and programmes through various Ministries/Departments. These schemes are Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar yojana; Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana, etc. The Government has recently enacted National Rural employment Guarantee Act, which provide 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

Coverage of entire child labour under the New Act

2356. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 2001—census lists about 1,85,000 children working as domestic help and 75,000 working in restaurants and dhabas-against a total of 20 million working in these sectors as estimated by some NGOs;

(b) whether the latest ban on child labour has simply added a few hazardous occupations to the existing Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 and still does not cover the entire child labour force, mainly in agricultural sector, where 80 per cent of the working children can be found; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to ensure that all the children of school-going age are in schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) As per the census 2001, which is the most authentic source of information about child labour, 1,85,505 children are engaged as domestic servants and 70,934 are engaged in restaurants, dhabas, and tea shops, etc., in the country in the